



Sara Thorne  
Nevada Permitting Manager  
January 15, 2016

Colleen Sievers  
Project Manager  
BLM Carson City District  
5665 Morgan Mill Road  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

**RE: Extended Comment Period for BLM Carson City District Resource Management Plan**

Dear Ms. Sievers,

The following comments are respectfully submitted by Coeur Mining, Inc., to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in response to the extended comment period for the Carson City District Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (RMP). We request that these comments become part of the administrative record for the RMP and that the RMP addresses all of the comments pertaining to our Coeur Wonder Exploration Project (Wonder) in Churchill County, Nevada, under additional management direction for habitat connectivity.

We are concerned that there are errors in what was labeled and analyzed as greater sage-grouse habitat in the abovementioned RMP. At Wonder, in Township 19 North, Range 35 East, and Township 18 North, Range 35 East, a portion of the eastern claim block is labeled Other Habitat Management Area (OHMA). While most of the OHMA area on the claim block is sagebrush vegetation, and a small portion juniper savannah, the majority of the area is disturbed by a historic mining district. The intent of the OHMA habitat designation is to help preserve and restore seasonal and connectivity areas according to the RMP.

On the figure in the RMP, it is clear that this area does not connect to any other greater sage-grouse habitat. Further, this OHMA on the Wonder claim block is within three miles of a bombing range to the west, and over six miles from the nearest Priority Habitat Management Area to the east.

We would appreciate the BLM removing this area of OHMA habitat. We would also appreciate additional management direction for habitat connectivity that includes justification for why isolated areas of sagebrush, juniper, and areas disturbed by historic mining qualify as OHMA habitat.

In conclusion, Coeur Mining, Inc., supports the efforts of the BLM and United States Forest Service to avoid the listing of greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act and we appreciate the opportunity to comment on this RMP; however, we have significant concerns about the management direction of the OHMA habitat for connectivity.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this matter.

Best regards,

Sara Thorne

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sara Thorne", written over a horizontal line.

Nevada Environmental Permitting Manager  
Coeur Mining, Inc.